**Theory of Knowledge Syllabus (IB juniors)**

**Ruth Lynette Creech**

Welcome! TOK is a course about critical thinking and inquiring into the process of knowing, rather than about learning a specific body of knowledge. The TOK course examines how we know what we claim to know. The course encourages the students to analyze knowledge claims and explore knowledge questions. The overall aim of TOK is to encourage students to formulate answers to the question “how do you know?” in a variety of contexts, and to see the value of that question. This allows students to develop an enduring fascination with the richness of knowledge.

**Goals and Objectives**

Students Will Be Able To:

1. make connections between a critical approach to the construction of knowledge, the academic disciplines and the wider world.

2. develop an awareness of how individuals and communities construct knowledge and how this is critically examined.

3. develop an interest in the diversity and richness of cultural perspectives and an awareness of personal and ideological assumptions.

4. critically reflect on their own beliefs and assumptions, leading to more thoughtful, responsible and purposeful lives.

5. understand that knowledge brings responsibility which leads to commitment and action.

**Class Meeting**

We will meet 3rd block Tuesdays and Thursdays for 90 minutes each (180 minutes a week).

**Assessment and grading**

The course will follow the grade weighting of the district: 60% major grades and 40% minor grades. Major grades will be tests, essays, presentations and projects. Everything else will be minor: quizzes, journals, class reflections and activities.

**Materials**

Students will be keeping a journal of their TOK journey. We will do our class activities and reflections in these journals. The journals will be checked for a grade periodically. Students will be expected to bring the materials they need to be prepared for every class.

**Internal Assessment**

Theory of knowledge exhibition (10 marks)

For this component, students are required to create an exhibition that explores how

TOK manifests in the world around us. This component is internally assessed by the

teacher and externally moderated by the IB at the end of the course.

**Contact information**

Ruth.creech@sumterschools.net

Room A108, English department at Sumter High School, extension 1108